

FAIRFAX AREA LONG TERM CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL (LTCCC)

MEETING INFORMATION:

Committee Name:	Government Affairs Committee
Meeting Location:	Held Virtually, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
Date & Time:	Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
Note Taker:	Lucy Beadnell

ATTENDEES:

April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair; Lucy Beadnell, Marlene Blum, Sharon Canner, Sherryn Craig, Jill Clark, Elizabeth McCartney, Steve Morrison, Robin McGlothin, Patricia Rohrer, Robert "Sarge" Sargeant, Claudia Vila, and Jacquie Woodruff.

Guests: Marlene Blum, Kristen Helfer and Carma Ryan Koester.

AGENDA ITEMS ADDRESSED:

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Steps
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair.	
Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting	<p>The Government Affairs Committee of the LTCCC conducted a wholly electronic meeting because the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe to physically assemble a quorum in one location or to have the public present. The meeting was held via video and audio using Zoom for computer access and a toll free telephone number for access via telephone.</p> <p>To assure public access, April (Committee Chair) asked committee members to state their names and where they were joining the meeting from. The Committee Chairman passed the virtual gavel to Assistant Committee Chair, Lucy Beadnell. The Chairman moved that each member's voice was adequately heard by each other committee member, and specifically that each voice was clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all other members. The motion was seconded by Robert Sargeant.</p> <p>Next the Chairman moved that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this committee to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, Freedom of Information Act</p>	<p>The Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>The Motion carried unanimously.</p>

	<p>(FOIA's) usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the Government Affairs Committee of the LTCCC and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented safely or practically. I further move that this committee may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated video and audio conferencing line. The motion was seconded by Robert Sargeant.</p> <p>Next the Chairman made a motion that it is required that the matters addressed on today's agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the LTCCC's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. The motion was seconded by Robert Sargeant.</p> <p>The Assistant Committee Chair passed the virtual gavel back to the Committee Chairman.</p>	The Motion carried unanimously.
Approval of Summary Notes from July 28, 2020 Meeting	The summary notes from the July 28, 2020 meeting were reviewed.	The Summary Notes from the July 28, 2020 meeting were approved as written.
Preparation of 2022 LTCCC Human Services Issues Paper Input (to be completed in three meetings)	<p>April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair, asked Patricia Rohrer to review the guidance provided from the County Legislative Office for updating the 2022 Board of Supervisors (BOS) Human Services Issues Paper. Patricia highlighted the following guidance: In recent years, the BOS has been directed that the guidance document stay in its currently condensed form. We should be clear and concise in adding new language. If circumstances at the state or federal level are significantly different, if new relevant legislation has been added, or if better background information, the position statements should be adjusted. Existing statements do not need to be written if edits are not significant. All statistics should be sourced, including page number, as well as the time period covered by the statistic. If the statistic involves combined source materials, the method of derivation should be included. Statistics should be as up to date and accurate as possible.</p> <p>Next, April asked Jacquie Woodruff, staff to the Commission on Aging (COA) to share the draft Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN) legislative platform for consideration for additional input for the issues paper. Jacquie shared that NVAN will have three</p>	Jacquie will share NVAN updates at the July committee meeting.

	<p>legislative and three budget items for the 2022 session. Legislative items are: paid sick days for all workers through employers with use allowed before using personal days, legal assistance on eviction notice, and allowance for electronic public hearings and meetings post-pandemic. The NVAN budget items will be: paid sick leave for nursing home/homecare/ALF staff, funding increases for Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program, and establishing nursing home staffing rations and stricter oversight of nursing homes and Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs).</p> <p>Next, April led the committee through the sections identified for review by the LTCCC.</p> <p>Substance Use Disorder- Elizabeth McCartney from the Community Services Board (CSB) shared there are no significant changes to this section, but that the CSB will update data points.</p> <p>Medicaid Waivers- Lucy will provide minor updates to language related to the pandemic funding from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Justice (DOJ) settlement with Virginia, and Medicaid dental benefits.</p> <p>April will investigate the issue of retainer payments and provide input at the next meeting.</p> <p>Disability Services Board (DSB) Claudia Vila noted the DSB has not met yet but will likely want to keep the language “as is,” or very similar. They will not meet until July, most likely.</p> <p>Independence and Self-Sufficiency for Older Adults and People with Disabilities Claudia noted that last year’s proposed language about including “caregivers” was not accepted. She added that language we had proposed in past years on Money Follows the Person does not need to be included again as it was passed/funded at the federal level.</p>	<p>Elizabeth will share any new updates from the CSB at future committee meetings for the substance use disorder section.</p> <p>Lucy will send updated language to Patricia in advance of the next meeting, along with the recent DOJ ruling on Virginia’s agreement with them.</p> <p>April will provide input at next meeting for retainer payments.</p> <p>Claudia will share DSB updates at our future committee meetings.</p> <p>Members are welcome to share other thoughts on language to propose at the next meeting for this section.</p>
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	<p>Accessibility Issues have not changed in the last year, so we recommend the section stay as it is currently. Language related to the pandemic is still valid, as it remains a concern.</p> <p>Adult Protective Services (APS) There have been some increased concerns around financial exploitation related to the pandemic and abuses during lockdowns.</p>	<p>Jacquie Woodruff and Claudia Vila will share information from the Adult & Aging Division of the Department of Family Services regarding the APS section one of the next two committee meetings.</p>
<p>New Positions for Consideration</p>	<p>April shared that the Health Care Advisory Board (HCAB) has a new issue to share. Sherryn Craig, staff to the HCAB, introduced Marlene Blum, Chair of the HCAB who introduced the following new issue for consideration. HB2126/SB1149CAB were introduced in the past legislative session. Marlene noted that these pieces of legislation deal with staffing at nursing facilities, including nursing homes. It may be wise to include Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) along with nursing homes, since the needs are similar, though there are different licensing and oversight mechanisms. Delegate. Watts submitted legislation on this issue for several years with limited progress, but Senator Kiggans is now joining the campaign. Virginia, unlike other states, has almost no significant requirements for staffing time and care. Now, a Registered Nurse (RN) must be in the facility five days per week to meet the requirements. Timing may be good for pushing the County to support legislation on this issue. The BOS has no ability to locally regulate this issue because we are a Dillon Rule State. Jacquie Woodruff noted that the Commission on Aging (COA) and the Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN) share the concern about nursing staff. The 2008 Human Services Issue Paper did address some nursing home workforce concerns. The NVAN platform has included this issue for many years. Robert Sargeant announced that AARP will have this as one of their three major issues for the year. Sherryn Craig is formulating a draft position statement for HCAB,</p>	<p>Committee will review the drafted new position statement on nursing home and ALF staffing once it is ready.</p>

	along with Jacquie Woodruff.	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.	

Next Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., to be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Next LTCCC Meeting: TBD.